

Nation

Volume 9, No. 9 • March 22, 2002

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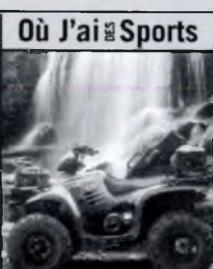
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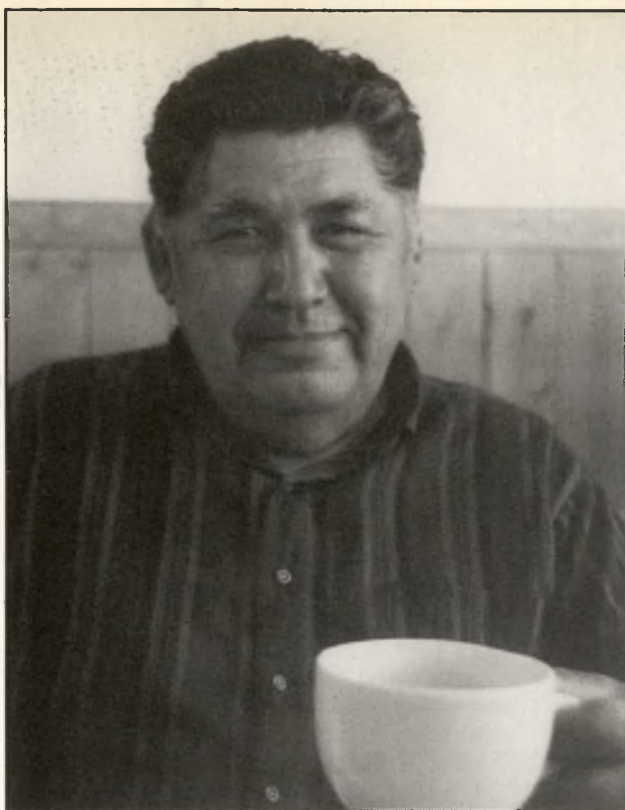


Life can be **HARD**...
but not on a **POLARIS**
THIS WAY OUT!



CHARLIE BRIAN

MAY 1937-MARCH 2002



It was with sorrow that I learned a good friend of mine had passed away Thursday, March 7. Charlie Brian will be missed by many people, Cree and non-Cree alike. Anyone who had ever gone to his restaurant knows that he embodied Cree hospitality. He greeted everyone with a smile and his good humour brightened many an otherwise dismal day.

Charlie was in many ways was a pioneer. Without any grants he opened up a little coffee shop where he served tea and donuts. He started this on proceeds from pulling a toboggan around to construction sites when they were building houses in Mistissini. He had sandwiches and stuff like that for the workers to buy. He also brought in the first TV where he would show hockey games and this was before Mistissini had electricity. It quickly became a meeting place for community members. I remember when he turned his Indian Affairs log house into Mistissini's first real restaurant. He had a stove, fridge and French fry cooker, all of them operating on propane. He also had the first pool table in Mistissini and this was before there were any roads so they must have brought it in by boat. Charlie's was the place to hang out even when you didn't have any money.

Charlie was always there and willing to talk seriously or just joke around.

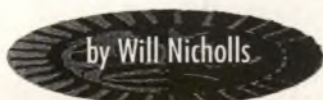
I remember when he expanded into Denis

Restaurant. I was working with SODAB at the time. Various people were trying to convince him to go for more than what he asked for. Charlie wouldn't do it as he wanted to add on only when he could afford it. He was wise that way; never going beyond his means. I learned about hard work and patience by watching him over the years. I also discovered that it was something you needed to make your dreams come true. In this way Charlie passed his work ethic on to more than just his children.

You see, Charlie was a family man and he told me once that everything he did he had done for his family and his actions showed that. After Charlie stepped down as the manager of the Denis Restaurant, he went back to the bush. I visited him once out there and asked him how retirement was going. He said he liked being back in the bush and would go to Mistissini every now and then to see how things were. "I'm just an advisor now," he laughed. He was still the comfortable soul to be around that I always knew. I was always relaxed in his company. He was that way with everyone I knew.

Ernie Webb says what he remembers best is that Charlie opened up his own home to guests like him even though he already had a very large family. Like I said, he embodied Cree hospitality as well as caring and sharing.

His presence and love of life will be missed by all.



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ON THE COVER

It's Still Winter in Eeyou Ischee
Photographer: Neil Diamond
Cover Design: Mona Laviolette

THE WAY TO WALK IS WITH YOUR HEAD HIGH

Everyone was talking about them, the walkers for diabetes awareness. It was exciting to know that people could still walk the way our ancestors did, with dogs and sleds. As they appeared out of the trail from across the river, I marveled at the speed they crossed the last stretch of ice. I waited near the top of the riverbank and again I was amazed at the pace they kept up, even going up the steep and slippery embankment. To my further amazement, they greeted me with familiar voices underneath the dark skin, fuzzy faces and ice burns. "Hi Sonny!" they said. One even exclaimed, "What are you doing here?" I had to know to whom I was talking, so I went to the cultural camp to catch a further glimpse of them.

Later on, I discovered that it was my old school chum, Freddie Jolly from Nemaska, who had braved incredible distance and weather to bring awareness to the Cree people of the epidemic proportion of diabetes amongst our people. I congratulate them and encourage others to partake in this war against the sweet disease that has brought many of our people to realize that sugar can be deadly and debilitating. Thank you, Freddie, and the others who have joined him.

Freddie is someone I know since I was a child. I met him in grade school and we were in the same class for many years. As schools went, some children stayed at the residence, some at foster homes and some stayed at their own homes. Freddie was considerably luckier than his peers from Nemaska as he lived in the community with a kind and considerate family and did not have to endure the residential school in his later high school years.

School was tough and strict in those days. Penalties for

misdemeanors carried a heavy price; sometimes the strap was laid low if you dared cross the line. We were not allowed to carry lethal weapons such as the slingshot and what little bird hunting we could manage had to be done early in the morning or after school, out of range of our nemesis, the terrible Mr. Wilson. Mr. Wilson (who was an exact replica of the one in the Dennis the Menace comic strip), would search every little boy for the offending stick with rubber and leather and tear them up in full view of the others and many a little boy had to return home to his father or grandfather to explain why he needed a new slingshot.

For some reason, Freddie, who was the biggest kid in school, had managed to smuggle his slingshot and carry it around undetected until the morning recess, when in the chilly autumn wind, a lone snow goose ventured close to the school playground. We called for all its worth, to that lone goose and then suddenly, it fell to the ground silently. We looked at Freddie, who had this incredible grin on his face, as he calmly put his slingshot away and picked up his kill by the neck.

Without a word, he sped off to his foster home and presented his catch of the day to his delighted adopted family. They would eat well that day.

Meanwhile, when the bell for the end of recess set off, we ventured back to class. "Now where did Mr. Jolly disappear to?" asked the teacher.

"Freddie killed a goose and went home" sputtered a buddy. Not believing him, the teacher made a major investigation and discovered that Freddie did indeed fell a goose with his slingshot. Freddie was the talk of the teachers and staff and became a hero that day and not a word was ever brought up about the illegal slingshot. Thanks Freddie for the memories.

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EDITORIAL BOARD
N. Diamond, W. Nicholls, B. Zelnicker

EDITOR IN CHIEF
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PHOTOGRAPHY
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SALES REPRESENTATIVE - MONTREAL
Aaron MacDevitt

LAYOUT & PRODUCTION
W. Nicholls, N. Diamond

AD LAYOUT
Aaron MacDevitt

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS
Jennifer Westlake
Danielle Valade

THANKS TO: Air Creebec,

WHERE TO REACH US:

POSTMASTER:
5505 ST-LAURENT, #3018
MONTREAL, QC., H2T 1S6

PLEASE ADDRESS CORRESPONDENCE TO:
THE NATION PRODUCTION OFFICE
5678 PARC AVE.
P.O. Box 48036
MONTREAL, CANADA H2V 4S8

EDITORIAL
TEL.: 514-272-3077, FAX: 514-278-9914

THE NATION HEAD OFFICE
P.O. Box 151, CHISASIBI, QC. J0M 1E0

E-MAIL ADDRESS:
Editorial
nation@beesum.ca
Ads & Classifieds
beesum@beesum-communications.com
On the Web:
www.beesum-communications.com

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The Nation



THE MOOT PANEL:
FROM RIGHT TO LEFT
IS CLAUDE DEMERS,
ERIC GAGNON,
ROMEO SAGANASH
AND PHIL RAPHALS.

Sustainable Development Moot At McGill

It was a contentious Moot (an assembly where people debate certain issues in a structured manner) at McGill on sustainable development in the James Bay. First year law students were lucky enough to see a panel consisting of Romeo Saganash of the Grand Council, Claude Demers of Hydro-Quebec, Phil Raphals of the Helios Centre and Eric Gagnon of the Ruperts Reverence Coalition.

Each panel member had 12 minutes in which to present their viewpoint and they did it well. Demers had a map showing power plants over 200 megawatts. It clearly showed the high amount of coal burning plants in use in the U.S. It was an effective strategy. Second to speak was Saganash, who gave an overview of the Agreement. He brought out the sharing of resources, jurisdiction and the fact that consent is for only one project, the Rupert Diversion. Next up was Raphals. He said the NBR was never even a concern as it and the Great Whale weren't economical to build. He decried the secrecy and lack of public consultation until a project was decided upon. Then it was Gagnon's turn. He talked about the beauty of the river and what it meant to people in the area and what it could mean to others. He talked about the Crees and how the river belonged to everyone in Quebec.

During rebuttal Saganash was quick on the draw going after Eric Gagnon. "These rivers belong to the Cree," said Saganash. He also said Crees don't like being lumped in with the developers and this has been a real pressure on the Crees. He joined Gagnon and Raphals in saying there was no real conservation happening in Quebec. Saganash also said the Crees are tired of being the only ones to foot the environmental bill for Quebec. Saganash said Gagnon was wrong in saying some Crees were intimidated during the process. After the Moot Saganash would say there was intimidation on both sides but it was not an official stance by anyone.

Raphals' rebuttal went to HQ's lack of consultation before dams were built and when challenged by Demers said that this was done in Manitoba and B.C.

Gagnon complimented McGill on the quality of the panel and said he was happy there would be a sound consultation on the Rupert Diversion. He said though that we must not just think with our hearts but also our heads.

CREE CONSTRUCTION INVESTIGATION

The James Bay Cree of Northern Quebec are at the threshold of deciding what the next step is in seeking to reconcile how management for the Cree Construction & Development Corporation allegedly embezzled a sum estimated at over a quarter million dollars.

Last year a purchasing agent who had been transferred to the purchasing department discovered the impropriety when the invoices submitted for materials was allegedly made out for more than double of what they were worth. Three years ago, the company was in a financial position with retained earnings of around 10 million, yet this past fiscal year, that number was negative.

The company is currently investigating their legal options, and what action to take against those involved. Company Director Josie Jimiken was reluctant to concede any facts before a decision is reached at the end of the month, but confirmed that the accused were management brought in by an unnamed outside headhunting firm.

"The basic public position at this point is that these dismissals occurred because of mismanagement, and a lack of financial performance by the company," stated Jimiken.

If it seems ambiguous it has to be so for now – A third party was hired to investigate their financial records, and the final outcome of these events will be determined by a decision made by the Board of Compensation at their next quarterly meeting taking place this March.

The Board of Compensation is composed of two elected representatives from each of the nine Cree Communities, plus three elected representatives from the CRA Grand Council.

Cree Construction is now in the process of replacing the

people who have been dismissed, but any prospect of legal action rests with the Board.

Cree Construction was founded in 1976 with a mandate to construct housing in the Cree communities. Over the last 26 years it has expanded its activities into road construction, maintenance, infrastructure, renovation, and various environmental projects that employ as many as 400 people, half of which are of Cree ancestry. Their modest beginnings have since flourished into a multi-million dollar enterprise with market interests in Indonesia, Malaysia, the former Soviet Union, and Madagascar.

Cree Construction VP and Air Creebec President Albert Diamond says he is unaware of any details concerning the investigation, though he did suggest that the initial discovery had been made far earlier than previously anticipated.

"[I have no idea] when it was discovered – I heard things being said in October of last year, but I think it was even before that. As far as the formal investigation, I think it started around then – maybe even in September," said Diamond.

Others, like Jimiken, place the discovery even further back than that.

"The company is now looking at various legal options, and if they should institute legal action against anyone or several individuals then publication of any information at this point in time might compromise their legal position," he said.

He conceded that a third party had been brought in to handle the investigation, though he could not confirm if – or at what point – police were involved. Cree Construction will only be issuing a statement following the decision at the end of March.

Chris Paré



Conseil Cri de la santé et
des services sociaux de la Baie James

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Cree Board of Health and
Social Services of James Bay

LOCAL COORDINATOR WASWANIP

The holder of this position ensures front-line management responsibility for the effective and efficient functioning of a Community Point of Service Center, its service delivery, staff management, materials and, operational and facilities management. He/she is also a liaison with the community and participates in local planning.

In his or her line of duty, he/she applies the policies and procedures of the Board.

REQUIRED EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE

- CEGEP DEC in Administration and 3-5 years experience in administration or CEGEP DEC in Nursing or Social Work and 3-5 years experience in administration or
- High School Diploma, suitable experience in local administration, knowledge of the community and knowledge of the Cree language and at least 5-7 years working experience.
- Pertinent experience in social or health services environment is an asset.
- Knowledge of the role and regulation of CLSC programs, homecare services, Youth Protection as asset.
- Knowledge of Cree Culture
- Prove ability or potential to be effective in the Cree Nation
- Ability to group issues and context that relate to First Nation Health and Social Services.
- Methodical, organized, autonomous, flexible;
- Ability to listen to staff
- Team leader with demonstrated ability to communicate theoretical and practical knowledge.
- Administrative skills to organize daily program activities and schedule employees.
- Ability to determine and prioritize the schedule of multiple tasks.
- A command of English is essential while knowledge of French and Cree would be asset.

Salary will be established according to class 13 of the MHSS, to which will be added an isolation premium.

CONDITIONS:

According to the MSSS standards. The employer provides the housing and shoulders the costs for the moving and the storage for employees hired from outside the community. The employment conditions include also an isolation premium from \$ 6,639.91 to \$10,621.76 and 3 to 4 sorties depending on the incumbent's status (single or with dependants)

Four-year, renewable contract during which time you will have the opportunity to provide training to a Cree replacement (where applicable)

The persons interested in this position are asked to forward their résumé within the prescribed deadline by March 22, 2002 to:

Marie-Andrée Bourdeau
Head of Human Resources Management - interim
Cree Board of Health & Social Services of James Bay
Chisasibi, Quebec J0M 1E0
Tel: (819) 855-9001 ext. 5340
Fax: (819) 855-2680

Donor Needed

Dear Members of the Cree Nation,

Waychia!

My name is Yvonne Bosum, I am 35 yrs old and I am a Cree from the Community of Ouje-Bougoumou, but have been residing in Fort St. James, British Columbia.

In the year 2000, I was diagnosed with Kidney Failure and presently my kidneys are functioning at a rate of 20% per kidney. Basically a machine called a peritoneal dialysis machine keeps my kidneys functioning, which I have to hook up to every night for approximately ten hours.

This is my day-to-day life and I can honestly say that at times it gets very difficult for me to go about my regular routines. Well I should not say regular, because my life has been nothing like regular since I was diagnosed. There are days when I just feel like giving up, days when I really do not care, I just drop everything and am completely hopeless.

However, that is not what I want, I have a son, his name is Brandon and he is eight years old. I want to give him the world, because that is what he is to me. However, again I cannot give him that much when I am constantly in and out of the hospital and on medication or hooked up to my machine.

Just recently, I had a seizure and this really scared me. My doctor told me that this was very serious because the next one could be fatal and now, what would happen to my son?

I cannot survive on the peritoneal machine for the rest of my life, which is why I am in search of a kidney donor. I have put my name on the British Columbia's Donor List, but so far I have not had much luck and the waiting list is long. It may take years before I would get a donor, if I survive that long.

My family back home, went through the test to verify their blood types but there was not much luck, they did not match. I am afraid of dying because I do not want to leave my son, I want to live to see him grow up, and have a family of his own. It is my son who makes me live every day. He is the world to me.

I am writing to you, if you would be willing to help me out, I am in search of a person who is willing to donate their kidney. My blood type is "O." Anyone who has blood type "O-" or "O+" would be a match for me. If you are thinking about it, I can give a number of a friend of mine who donated a kidney to her mom, and is now living with one kidney and she is doing great. Her mom is also living a better life, thanks to her daughter who donated the kidney. That is my one wish in life, it's to find a kidney donor so I will know that I will live longer and grow old with my son.

I would like to thank you in advance for taking the time to read my story and may the good lord be with you.

Meegwetch!
Yvonne Bosum

If you are interested, please call (418) 745-2418, and ask for Rachel.



Rupert Study on Hold

The Ruperts Reverence group is pressing the Mayors' Council of James Bay Municipality to ask the Quebec Environment Ministry for a biodiversity study

on the effect of damming the Rupert River. The Mayors' Council initially passed a resolution in favour of a study. But the council later decided to postpone the request. RR President Eric Gagnon, told the Nation that Chibougamau Mayor Donald Dunbar explained his community is financially dependent on Hydro-Quebec, and that the crown utility might threaten to discontinue its "financial partnerships" between HQ and Chibougamau over the issue.

Gagnon says the position of the James Bay Municipality is very important as 80 per cent of the Rupert River flows through land under its control. He is hoping to have a study done so that light will be shed on the "numerous worrisome aspects" of the Eastmain and Rupert Hydro projects. He said such a study would only show the James Bay Municipality is looking at the future of the territory. Gagnon wants a transparent process that allows for full consultation of all the inhabitants of the territory.

At present the James Bay Municipality is the largest in the world with 350,000 square kilometres but with an official population of only 1,422 (2001 Census). The Mayors' Council is made up of the mayors of seven towns in the territory: Chibougamau, Lebel-sur-Quevillon, Radisson, Matagami, Val-Paradis and Beaucanton. The James Bay Municipality was created under the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement.

The Fighting Whities

An intramural basketball team at the University of Northern Colorado called "The Fighting Whities" is turning the tables on the insulting practice of naming sports teams after Native peoples or tribes. Led by Solomon Little Owl, director of Native American Student Services at UNC, the team chose a white man as its mascot to raise awareness and understanding of stereotypes that some cultures endure.

"The message is, let's do something that will let people see the other side of what it's like to be a mascot," Little Owl said. "I am really offended by this mascot issue, and I hope the people that support the Eaton mascot will get offended by this."

The players, made up of a mixture of American Indian, Hispanic and Caucasian students, wear white jerseys with the picture of a white man in a suit on the front and the slogan "Every thang's gonna be all white!" printed beneath.

"It's not meant to be vicious, it is meant to be humorous," said Ray White, a Mohawk American Indian on the team. "It puts people in our shoes, and then we can say, 'Now you know how it is, and now you can make a judgment.'"

Source: The Greeley (Colorado) Tribune

Sun Peaks Protesters Face Criminal Charges

Two Elders, Irene Billy & Charlie Willard, a spiritual leader, Henry Saul and a young warrior, George Manuel Jr. are appeared in court March 12 on charges of criminal contempt for refusing to leave their home and

the Skwelkwel'welt Protection Centre located at Skwelkwel'welt and on unceded Secwepemc Traditional Territory.

The defendants refuse to recognize Canadian jurisdiction in the case. They say the Secwepemc have never ceded, surrendered or signed treaties with any foreign government and continue to hold an inherent and legal right to their lands.

They further charge the governments of British Columbia and Canada, the Sun Peaks Resort Corporation and the British Columbia Assets and Land Corporation (BCAL), a provincial crown company, with conspiring to force the Secwepemc Indians from their own land they call Skwelkwel'welt.

Taxpayer group tries to stir anti-Native hatred

A Calgary-based taxpayer organization is saying that a court decision affecting thousands of First Nations people in Alberta will create racial friction and administrative chaos.

The Federal Court of Canada ruled March 7 that First Nations living under Treaty 8 do not have to pay any tax. According to the ruling, treaty negotiations held over 100 years ago led the aboriginals to believe they would never be taxed. The decision includes those living off-reserve and could result in backpayments of tens of thousands of dollars to some individuals.

John Carpay, Alberta director for the Canadian Taxpayers Federation, argued against special treatment for First Nations. "If your next door neighbour doesn't have to pay tax because of his racial ancestry, that's appalling," said Carpay. "It's repulsive. It's a step backwards."

Carpay says it will only widen the existing racial divide and cause confusion within the tax collection system. "Welcome to taxpayer apartheid," Carpay said. "This should be a wakeup call for Canadians to sit up and take notice of aboriginal policy and court decisions on aboriginal policy."

But James Badger, an adviser to the grand chiefs, said the decision was fair and long-deserved. "The only ones I suggest are creating this racial divide are the Canadian Taxpayers Federation," Badger said. "They have tried from the start to make this a race-based case, which it is not."

Badger says he has been saving receipts from restaurants and stores in order to be reimbursed for the GST, sales and income taxes he's been paying. But both Badger and Carpay believe the case is not over and expect the decision will be appealed.



Cree School Board

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**We are now accepting applications
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The application deadlines for financial assistance for programs starting for fall semester 2002 are:

- a) April 1st, for programs/courses starting in the fall semester, 2002, or
- b) Three (3) months in advance of any other official starting date of the program/courses.

Application forms for financial assistance are available in the following places:

- All Cree communities (at the schools)
- See the student affairs technicians or guidance counsellors
- Adult education centres in the communities of Chisasibi, Mistissinin, Waswanipi and Waskaganish
- Cree School Board post secondary offices in Montreal (1 800 463 7402) and Hull 1 800 567 9667

Send applications, along with required documents to:

Cree School Board
277 Duke Street, suite 200
Montreal, Quebec
H3C 2M2

MONTREAL OFFICE
Post Secondary Program
277 Duke St., Suite 200
Montreal (Québec)
H3C 2M2
Telephone: 514-878-9995
Fax: 514-878-1068
Toll free: 1-800-463-7402

HULL OFFICE
Post Secondary Program
98, rue Lois
Hull (Québec)
J8Y 3R7
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Required qualifications :

Possess a High School education or a commitment to obtain the equivalent; although a pertinent work experience may compensate. Possess a valid driver's licence. Have work experience in a mining or industrial environment. To hold a general and valid explosive permit. Have prior experience on drills and doing bit sharpening is an asset. To have a basic knowledge of French or English. Having a work experience in a multicultural environment is an asset.

Main responsibilities :

- Clean work areas and equipment;
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- Assist drillers;
- Participate to the minor repair on the equipments and the structures;
- Assist the employee responsible for pumps in his duties;
- Assist in the installation of water pipes;
- Perform any other related duties.

Particularities and remuneration

Inmet Mining Corporation offers a competitive salary. These positions are addressed to men and women. Inmet Mining Corporation encourages the hiring of Crees and thanks all applicants of their interest, but advises that only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Those interested are to send their Curriculum vitae, not later than **March 28, 2002** to :

Human Resources Department

Inmet Mining Corporation

Troilus Division

P.O. Box 8700

Chibougamau (Québec) G8P 3A9

Fax : (514) 521-8376 / (418) 748-3033

The Late Charlie Brien

May 12, 1936 – March 8, 2002

On Friday March 8, 2002, our community received the heartbreaking news of Elder Charlie Brien's passing



Charlie was a prominent figure in our community. His presence never went unnoticed. As one of the first businessmen, he broke the trail and laid the foundation to economic development for our community. When he started, the theory of business subsidies was not common yet he still became successful and his restaurant still operates comfortably today. The story goes that in Charlie's early business days, he pulled his supplies on a toboggan going around the community to sell them. His success in business makes him a pioneer in the business development for our community.

As a big fan of sports events and especially hockey, Charlie never hesitated to share his time to assist the youth in their sport. He further showed support to all athletes through countless financial contributions. Being a competitor himself in physical strength competitions, he was known to portage over 1000 pounds at local and outside meets.

Charlie's passing marks the loss of another Elder who gave time to support local and regional sports events.

As a community member, he served as councilor during the Late Chief Isaac Shecapio's tenure. At local public assemblies, Charlie recognized the importance of attending meetings and for one to state their opinion on issues. In our efforts to pave our highway, and as a businessman who understood this need, he was very visible at different demonstrations for the 167 North. Out of simple coincidence, the day of his passing was also the day of the announcement for the paving of 167 North.

Charlie's loyalty to the people went beyond his physical ability. He made a commitment to become a Lay-reader for the Anglican Church. A decision to serve the church as a Lay-reader is a choice very few people can make in their lifetimes. I believe this was Charlie's most gratifying decision.

Charlie had many ways of contributing to the general welfare of our community. The memories left behind will serve as a fond inspiration for our community. We will miss him dearly.

These memories are dedicated to Janie (Neeposh) Brien and family. God Bless You.

Chief John Longchap

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Financial Woes can cripple band councils

by Will Nicholls

Jim McCarthy is a 12-year veteran of the Department of Indian Affairs. On February 27, McCarthy appeared before the Cree Naskapi Commission to discuss problems with the James Bay Cree bands submitting year-end audited reports on time and the high levels of indebtedness that afflict some band councils. One of his former positions was in the department's finance branch, where he was able to look at the bands' financial position from a global perspective. He has been the director of the James Bay Implementation Office for two years and has some responsibility to ensure financial accountability for Cree bands.

The Nation: You say that none of the bands were delivering their audited statements on time?

Jim McCarthy: That's correct. Under the Cree Naskapi Act there's a requirement for bands to have the financial statements in by 140 days after the end of the fiscal year. Last year none of them made that date. One Cree band was ten days late. The others were considerably later than that with an average of 75 days late.

How long was the latest?

I'm not going to mention the name of the band as I feel that's a little private. The latest was the 30th of January (2002).

What about the other First Nations in Quebec, are you having problems with them?

Out of the other 30, 7 were on time and the average was 24 days late.

There's quite a difference between the Cree and other First Nations?

Yes.

You've talked about high levels of indebtedness. What are we talking about here?

I didn't get into that in my report. The highest one is on a



remedial plan. I don't think the others will be but that doesn't mean there aren't debt problems somewhere.

You said some services could suffer because of this level of debt. Is this based on past experience with other communities?

Well, one particular example that we have encountered is that unless there is a remedial action plan in place and working for a certain period of time we are required not to allow ministerial loan guarantees. An unresolved debt can affect a community's ability to benefit from a ministerial loan guarantee. It's a fairly concrete consequence that results from indebtedness.

It is also a possibility that if statements are late then discretionary funding could be withheld. This doesn't apply to essential services though. So there are consequences to indebtedness and having your statements come in late.

If these levels continue will you be looking at putting more Cree communities into some form of financial management plan?

We are advised on that by the Quebec region office of DIAND. We work together on that type of thing and they have the analytical responsibility. That, of course, is a possibility for the Cree First Nations as much as it is for the other First Nations. One of them is in a certain level of intervention. I would hope not to have to go farther.

You've asked the Cree Naskapi Commission (CNC) to look into the root causes. What types of things are you talking about? What have you seen as root causes of high levels of indebtedness?

I can't really speculate.

What have you seen in other communities or is it a case by case situation?

It tends to be case by case. What we said to the CNC is this is an issue regarding the implementation of the Cree Naskapi Act (CNA). The CNA gives a degree of self-government to Cree communities so we think it's very much something that lies within the mandate of the CNC. The CNC is to report on that implementation. So what is it? Is it a lack of internal capacity? Is it a lack of training? Is it excessive staff turnover? Is it an accumulation of unwise decisions, bad luck or poor investments? We don't know.

You said a lack of debt is critical to self-government?

I didn't say that. Debt wisely used can be a tool for development. Many of us have mortgages, but the key is the ability to pay it off. There are situations where First Nations use debt for certain purposes. The issue is whether they are able to manage the debt.

You've said that funding that goes through the Cree Regional Authority is difficult to track. Exactly how so? We've been discussing with the CRA the difficulties in the way the funding goes through the CRA and then to the individual bands in terms of seeing where it all goes and is ultimately is spent because the Minister (Indian Affairs) ends up being accountable for that spending to Parliament. The CRA has indicated they are willing to sit down with us and discuss that.

Is there anything else you would like to add?

Simply this was in the context of an overall report on our part to the CNC in which we pointed out we had certain issues with respect to implementation. We were also pointing out the Federal contribution to implementation of the CNA in terms of funding provided and such. We felt



was something the commission needed to take note of and to reflect in its reporting.

Note: Numerous calls for comment on this issue to the Grand Council were not returned.

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Traditional Knowledge

And the School

by Moses Novalinga

My article is about Native traditional knowledge. This article will introduce how we can use traditional knowledge in schools. Its intent is to give communities, and schools in particular, some encouragement to implement traditional knowledge.

One example about traditional knowledge comes from the mighty Canada goose. The majestic Canada goose signals to the rest of the flock that it wants to take off. It wants to fly and soar. If the rest of the flock agrees with its judgment, they will take off and go somewhere. How does one know what that goose is doing? Traditional knowledge is knowledge that is passed on from generation to generation. Keen observation and years of experience confirm and validate that knowledge.

Like that goose, someone has to take the initiative and leadership to include traditional knowledge in schools.

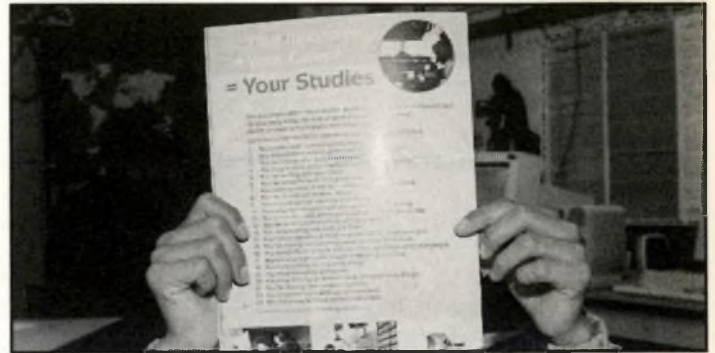
Different people and different culture define traditional knowledge. How those people look at traditional knowledge may be different or similar in many ways. Native traditional knowledge is as old as its people. One generation after another passes it on to the next but it is getting harder to promote and preserve knowledge with each successive generation. Not enough of the elders or parents are working actively to promote and preserve. Also the traditional way of living is no longer the dominant lifestyle it once was.

Inuit, First Nations, and Metis have to work harder to preserve their culture and language. One avenue is traditional knowledge: our tool to save our language and traditional culture.

One mechanism to research, document, teach, and learn is through the school. The school is an excellent vehicle to use and to get started. Your school and community can take off and go forward majestically like the Canada goose: flying high and proud. Practicing traditional knowledge will help and strengthen community members to feel proud of who they are, where they come from and where they want to go and can go.

The concept that traditional knowledge is no longer relevant is a misconception. We still have, use and practice it in our lives, at work, play or rest. Native traditions encompass our whole being. Legends tell us the knowledge that we can use today. The wisdom and experience of the elders are invaluable. They have lived, survived and practiced traditional knowledge. We need to rekindle the fire and it only needs a few little sparks to set it alight. One individual person can be that spark. Put a couple of good minds together and the final result can become beautiful and exciting like colorful and synchronized fireworks.

Because traditional knowledge is so vast it can be made to be very interesting and stimulating. Knowledge in every way is life itself. It includes history, legends, morals, true stories, games,



songs, beliefs, relationships, the environment, wildlife, weather, the sky, medicine, healing, values, respect, love, wisdom, intelligence, family, and a lot of another areas that are intangible can be learned and gained through traditional knowledge.

Whenever an elder passes on, a tremendous amount of knowledge, experience and understanding go to the grave. It is not too late to research, record, and preserve our traditional knowledge. Time is a critical factor. It is now or we lose more of that knowledge at every funeral. Native people still have the benefit of having elders who possess that knowledge.

Does knowing about traditional knowledge hamper academic education? Instead of diminishing academic knowledge, it should enhance and increase it. Academic education and traditional knowledge should go hand in hand to promote language and culture in both disciplines.

Not everybody is going to go on to become academics in the traditional sense of the term. Some of the best contributors in our Native communities know only traditional knowledge. Academic education should not be sacrificed because of traditional knowledge or vice versa.

How do you get started on using traditional knowledge at school? One only needs initiative and a little passion. Organization and structure along with planning and coordination can lead to a successful traditional knowledge culture at the school. Having a strong school board that strongly values traditional knowledge can go a long way. Support from the administration where one Native person is in charge of cultural programs is crucial to its success. Much of the time, some of the costs can be absorbed by the cultural budget. Fund-raising for some extra dollars doesn't hurt.

In closing, traditional knowledge is very important to Native communities and schools. It should be taught to preserve language and culture. With some good planning and coordination, it can be successfully used. The elders are our greatest resource for traditional knowledge. There is still time to work on traditional knowledge but it has to be done NOW.

We must allow our children and their children to know and understand their past. It is their right to acquire traditional knowledge. With a little encouragement, passion, and direction, traditional knowledge can be put in its rightful place to stay.

What is the New Economy? A Youth Perspective

by Anonymous

I am a 24-year-old youth who loves talking economic development in Eeyou/Eenou Estchee, as a beneficiary of the Cree lands of our Eeyou/Eenou Estchee.

What does the new economy mean to us, the Crees of Quebec? Well, here is one point of view I think we should pay close attention to. We seem to be talking a lot in our respective communities, in our local and regional organizations, but we are not delivering. There are many investment opportunities we can use to progress economically, and yet we are still talking about self-government. Listen people, we are behind, we are hesitating, and although we still mention credibility, accountability and self-reliance, we are still not utilizing our resources to its maximum.

So let's work together here. Do people even know what accountability, credibility or even self-reliance mean? I think we as Crees still don't know. Maybe we are simply too stubborn, because we mix political hassle with business. I believe it is happening in all of our Eeyou/Eenou Estchee.

The new economy is simply progress in economic development to better stimulate our quality of life within our respective communities. Communication is key to anything we may consider. Yet we seem to be having difficulties communicating at all levels within our Cree world.

Firstly, I will leave you with this to think about: As one elder put it at the 2000 regional general assembly in Mistissini, "Look at the community with the dam and yet we are fighting Hydro. Look at the community with the sawmill and yet we are fighting forestry. Think about it." Are we just stubborn or ignorant to the macro aspect of our affairs and still just focusing on the micro aspect of our issues? Maybe not, we may have our reasons and complications when going back to the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement, the Indian act; the Cree/Naskapi or any other acts and documents out there. All I hear these days is section this and section that. Come on people, you know who you are, let's move. We as youth are crying out to you in ways in which you may not like. You figure this one out for yourself. Money may be running low for us Crees, so it's time to think strategically and not stubbornly. It's time for the future benefit of the quality of life of our people. I think it may be time for some people to step down and let the youth come in. We are eager to help stimulate our local economies and pitch in. Some youth are, I know, because I am one.

Secondly, we as Crees have neither policies nor procedures as to how we will manage and make progress in economic development. We need to get our act together and realize that those small entrepreneurs out there are



key people to our advancement in economic development. But don't get me wrong; those people should be able to face their own obstacles and not their local government helping them monetarily all the time. Running a business is not an easy job unless you make it happen for yourself and not for anyone else. Look at our regionally owned businesses; we are still bailing these companies out. God knows how long we have been with Air Creebec, except perhaps on one or two occasions. Let's not forget Cree Construction, a company that looks pretty good on the outside because of our Cree money, but what about internally? How exactly are they doing financially? Tell these guys to stay out of being too political and think of changing their mind concept. Focus on trying to be more like entrepreneurs. Just because you have big titles and salaries doesn't make you any better or different than those small entrepreneurs out there. Look at Servinor, how much of the Cree peoples' money have we lost with this company? I suppose a few millions could just about be right. Not every business makes money right away, but it should be profitable at some point in time. That's the whole point of business, you should be in it to make money and not lose it.

And finally, in which brings to further sharing with you this whole deal about the new economy.

One way to operate in the new economy for us Cree would be to live up to today's development. One prime example is the recent new relationship we signed with the Quebec Government. It is time to think like business people and put our political affairs aside for now. Let's move on all aspects of various industries such as mining, hydro, tourism, forestry, construction, not to mention entrepreneurship. Let's not wait and see the outcome of things, let's implement and monitor our future...

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WIIIL ON THE GIRLIL

by Will Nicholls

Don't we all love to munch out on something?

Unfortunately, that's where the pounds and kilos can add up. Love handles may be useful but they are unhealthy once they get beyond a certain point. Don't let this happen to you. It doesn't mean you have to give up your snacks it just means you have to change them for something a little more healthy. Buy fruit or eat raw veggies, for example. Or you could try some of the recipes down below and add a whole new dimension to the snack attack.

Cranberry Delight Salad

This one is a simple mix-and-serve recipe. It's great as either an appetizer or side dish.

- 1 can whole cranberries
- 1 can crushed pineapple (drained)
- 1 - 8 oz. Cool Whip topping (thawed)
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts (optional)
- 8 oz. cream cheese (at room temperature)
- 2 tbsp. mayonnaise
- 2 tbsp. sugar

1. Blend cream cheese, mayonnaise and sugar.
2. Fold in all other ingredients.
3. Put in refrigerator and serve chilled.

Cucumber Dip

Try this dip if you want a little variety. It's very easy to make. It tastes great with Fritos, pretzels, and almost any veggies.

- 1 cup chopped cucumber (no seeds)
- 1 cup chopped green pepper (no seeds)
- 1 cup chopped celery
- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 2 pounds cream cheese
- 2 tbsp. mayonnaise
- Dash of salt

1. For best results, chop the cucumber and peppers by hand.
2. Mix ingredients one day before serving. Refrigerate, but do not freeze.

Taco Dip

Looking for a healthy munchie during movie or hockey night

that's not going to add pounds and is healthy for you? Just try the one below.

mixture:

- 2 cups sour cream
- 8 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 1 packet taco seasoning
- 1 tbsp. garlic powder

toppings:

- 1 head lettuce, chopped
- 1 tomato, diced
- 1 green pepper, diced
- green onion, diced
- black olives, sliced or diced
- 2 cups finely shredded cheddar cheese

1. Prepare the mixture.
2. In a 13x9 dish, put on a light layer of lettuce. Spread the sour cream/cream cheese mixture over that.
3. Then add another layer of lettuce.
4. Add all the toppings and then top with shredded cheese. Refrigerate until ready to use.
5. Dip with chips.

Raspberry Souffle Delight

- 2/3 cup seedless raspberry spreadable fruit
- 1 tbsp. fresh lemon juice
- 4 large egg whites (1/2 cup)
- 1/2 tsp. cream of tartar
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract
- 2 tbsp. sugar

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees F.
2. In large bowl, with wire whisk, beat raspberry fruit spread with lemon juice; set aside.
3. In small bowl, with mixer at high speed, beat egg whites and cream of tartar until whites begin to mound. Beat in vanilla. Gradually add sugar, beating until sugar dissolves and whites stand in stiff peaks when beaters are lifted.
4. With rubber spatula, fold one-third of whites into raspberry mixture until well-blended, then fold in remaining whites.
5. Spoon mixture into 1 1/2-quart souffle dish; gently spread evenly.
6. Bake 15 to 18 minutes or until souffle is puffed and lightly browned. Serve immediately.

Layered Seafood Killer

All I can say is I love it!

- 2 packages (8 oz. each) cream cheese, softened
- 2 tbsp. mayonanaise
- 1 tsp. cayenne pepper
- 1/2 tsp. garlic powder
- 1 tsp. dijon mustard
- 1/2 cup sliced green onions, green part only

- 3/4 cup diced tomato
- 1 pound lump crab meat
- 1/2 cup shredded Cheddar cheese

1. In medium bowl, cream together cream cheese, mayonnaise, cayenne peppers, garlic powder and mustard. Evenly spread in bottom of pizza pan or 12-inch round tray.
2. Sprinkle onions and tomatoes over cream cheese mixture.
3. Top with crab meat and Cheddar cheese.
4. Serve with assorted crackers or plain tortilla chips.

Curried Vegetables

I love the taste of curry no matter what the season. This is a great way to add a little zest to your veggies and surprise your guests.

- 1 zucchini thickly sliced
- 1 carrot sliced or coarsely grated
- 1 large onion sliced
- 1 head of broccoli or cauliflower
- 1 tsp. virgin olive oil
- 1 tsp. butter
- 1 can light coconut cream
- 1 tbsp. curry powder (your preference)

1. Heat oil and butter in large non-stick frying pan or skillet.
2. Sauté onions until just tender.
3. Add zucchini and other vegetables and sauté until golden brown.
4. Remove from frying pan and place in a large baking dish.
5. Place 1 tbsp. curry powder in frying pan and stir until all liquid absorbed and it lets oil go.
6. Add coconut cream and mix well.
7. Pour this mixture through the vegetables in baking dish and place in pre-heated oven at 350 degrees and bake for 30-45 minutes.

SPORTS BARS WITH DRIED FRUIT AND PEANUT BUTTER

No I didn't forget you sports fanatics. Whether you are out in the bush, exercising or playing some sport, this is a great source of energy.

- 3 cups puffed whole grain cereal
- 1/2 cup walnuts, chopped
- 1/4 cup chopped pitted dates
- 1/4 cup chopped dried tart cherries
- 1/4 cup raisins
- 1/3 cup creamy peanut butter
- 1/4 cup honey
- 1/4 cup light corn syrup
- Nonstick vegetable oil spray

1. Preheat oven to 350°F. Spray 9-inch square metal baking pan with nonstick spray.
2. Mix cereal, walnuts, dates, cherries, and raisins in medium

bowl.

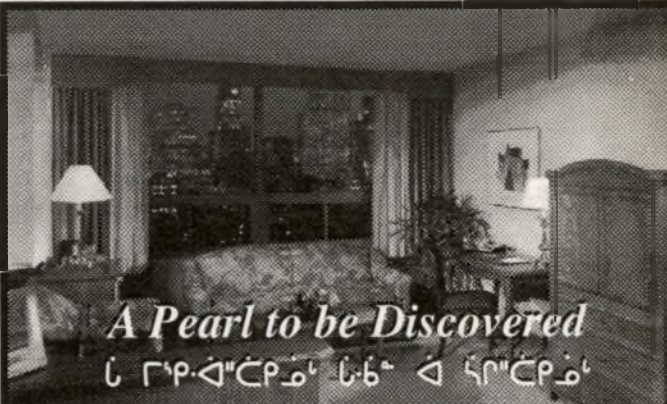
3. Combine peanut butter, honey, and corn syrup in heavy small saucepan. Bring to boil, whisking constantly until mixture bubbles vigorously and thickens slightly, about 1 minute.
4. Pour peanut butter mixture over cereal mixture in bowl; stir to blend.
5. Transfer mixture to prepared pan; press to compact.
6. Bake until golden around edges, about 10 minutes.
7. Cool completely. Cut into 2 1/2 x 1 1/2-inch bars. (Can be prepared 3 days ahead. Store in single layer between sheets of foil in airtight container at room temperature.) Makes about 18 bars.

Dried Fruits and Nuts

This one's for the do-it-yourself people. I like making my own trail mixes because I add a little more of what I like and decide what I want as the filler. This one is based on *mendiants*, a traditional French Christmas dish that consists of almonds, figs, hazelnuts, and raisins.

- 1 cup dried apricots
- 1/2 cup dried dates (preferably Medjool)
- 1/2 cup walnut halves
- 1/2 cup natural pistachios
- 1/4 cup dark raisins
- 1/4 cup golden raisins

1. In a bowl toss ingredients to combine well. Makes 3 cups.




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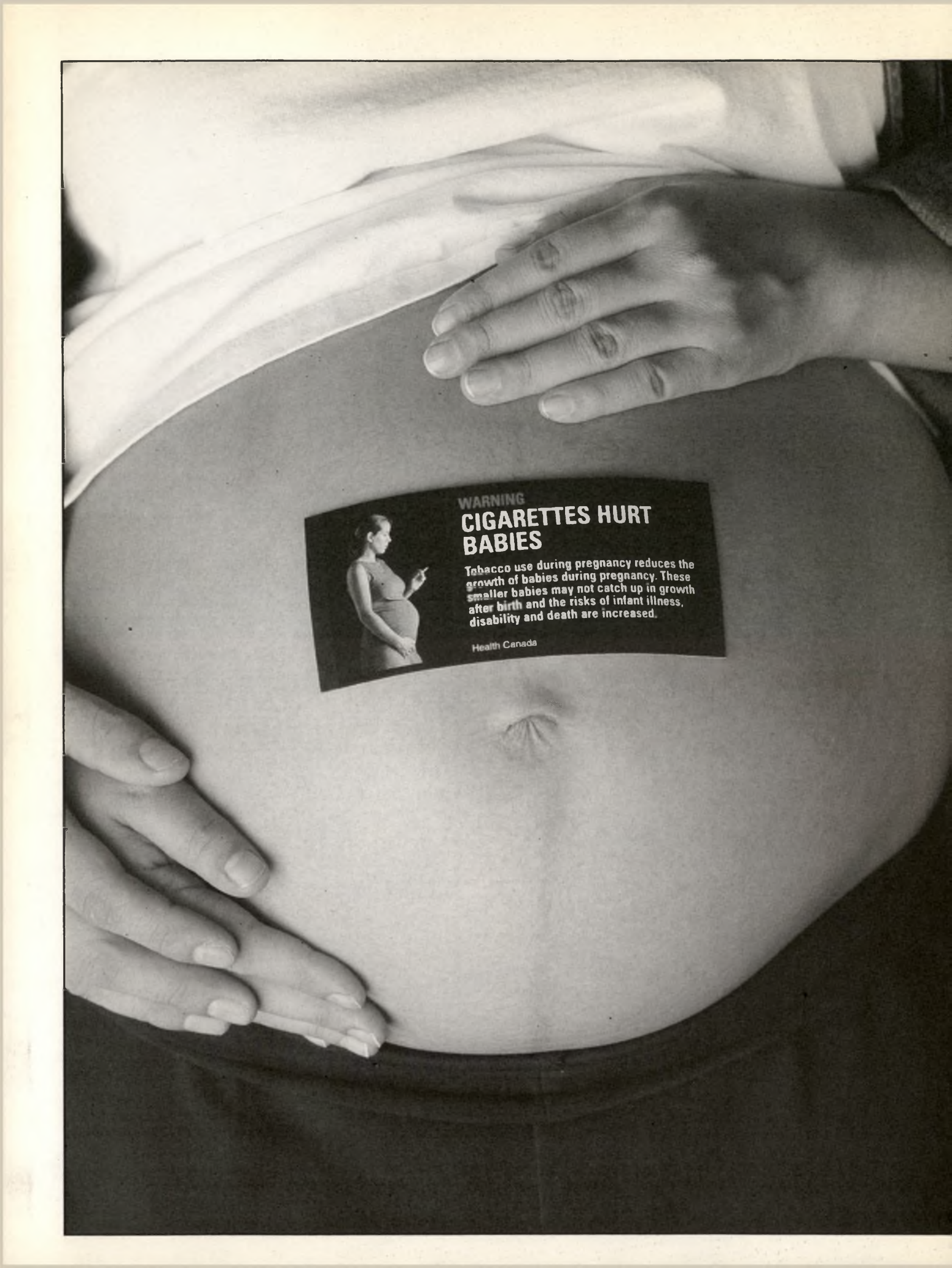
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YOUTH PROTECTION IS A COMMUNITY AFFAIR

Youth Protection is a community affair in spite of the fact that the Youth Protection Act is a foreign law to Cree and other native communities.

by Brian Bishop

Before Canadian law was introduced into the communities, the concept of caring for children is a value that has kept the Cree communities strong for thousands of years. No one wanted to see children hurt or neglected. If children were venturing out on to thin ice or if there was a bear or wolf around, adults would step in to protect the child. There was even the possibility of traditional adoptions if parents were not able to care for their children.

An elder in Nemaska, John Tent, confirmed that if a family was experiencing problems with a child, other family and community members would step in to help. He pointed out that if one adult spoke to the child to correct some misbehavior and he or she did not listen, other adults would continue to talk to the child until the offending behavior was corrected.

The concept of "community" has certainly changed quite a bit since that time. The dangers now are more likely to be parents who are partying, fighting or taking off for Val D'Or and Chibougamou without making adequate childcare arrangements and these are the times that social workers must step in to protect the children.

It is not always a pleasant job and it certainly would not win them a popularity contest in the communities. But (as is consistent with traditional ways) someone has to intervene and speak for children who are scared, powerless, and whose only wish is to have a mommy and daddy in their right mind and emotionally available to them.

And although the Youth Protection Act is a foreign law, it does not exclude traditional ways of helping. The



Atikamekw First Nation provides a good example of this. When Social Services is alerted to a child at risk, every attempt is made with family members (through a Family Council), with community members (through a Circle of Helpers), and with elders (through a Council of Elders) to find solutions to the problem before invoking the law and using the court system.

The protection of children is everyone's responsibility because Cree communities need them to be future leaders. A child who feels safe in his or her home and is cared for with the appropriate love, support and structure is more likely to do better in school. Consequently, he or she could go on to realize his or her full potential.

This is especially important because Cree communities in the future need teachers, nurses, doctors, mechanics, dentists, lawyers, environmentalists, administrators, builders, and computer specialists (not to mention trappers and hunters) in order to be more autonomous and to reduce the dependency on non-natives, which sometimes leads to problems of recruitment and retention of personnel.

Too Cold to Forget

Xavier Kataquapit

Snowstorms are just another part of life during the winter season in my home community of Attawapiskat on the James Bay coast. I have many memories as a young boy playing in the snow outside our front door in the middle of a blizzard with my young brothers. Most of the time we wanted to be outside.

Most of the time, my friends and I didn't see stormy winter weather as something to keep us from enjoying the outdoors. We played hockey in any kind of weather at the local outdoor hockey rink. When we were not playing hockey we wandered around our neighborhoods and played other games in the snow.

When I was young, storms in the community were never a great threat as I was able to run home once I had too much of the cold. When I got to be a teenager I was able to join my dad, Marius and my brothers for long snowmobile rides on the land. Out in the middle of nowhere it was a more serious matter to deal with bad weather.

One of the most difficult rides on a snow machine I have ever endured took place north of my community on the Lakitusaki River. We had travelled there in the early spring to set up camp and prepare for the goose hunt. During our stay we decided to visit an old abandoned American military base to gather plywood to add to a shelter we were building at our camp. The base was once part of the Distant Early Warning (DEW) line used during the Cold War. It is called site 415 and is located in the middle of Polar Bear Provincial Park, a six-hour ride north of the Lakitusaki River. It is in an area known in Cree as, Mooshawak, which basically translates into English as "barren land."

This is where the tree line ends and the flat featureless tundra begins.

We left early in the day under a bright blue sky. By midday the weather changed to gusting winds and by early evening the blowing snow whipped up and obscured our vision. It was a unique storm that only takes place in the tundra.

Dad explained that the wind and snow only blew along the first several feet from the ground. He demonstrated this fact by climbing on top his toboggan and peering above the blowing snow where he was able to view the clear skies above and the tops of distant trees.

The weather had also turned bitterly cold and we all bundled up by putting on every item of clothing we had brought with us. In heavy clothing it was difficult for any one of us to dress ourselves alone so each of us partnered up with another to assist in dressing with our clothes. My



brother Anthony helped me dress for the cold and suggested I put away my glasses as they would give my face and cheeks frostbite. Once my glasses were put away he covered my face in a scarf, pulled a toque over my head as well as a fur lined hat and zipped my parka snug around my neck.

We drove home in that storm with little visibility. Dad and my brother Anthony guided our group of four snow machines and their sleds back to camp. I was unsure of myself as I had a hard time seeing without my glasses and in addition I had the slowest snow machine, an old 1980 Elan that was on its last legs.

I drove through the storm barely able to make out the sled in front of me and at one point I lost sight of it altogether. I could not see anyone. I followed the disappearing tracks in front of me as best as I could and hoped that I would find my way home. I drove for about four of the six hours without seeing any of the other snow machines.

I was relieved once I was able to see the trees of the Lakitusaki River on either side of me. I knew I had made it and that I was on the right track and would be home soon. Once we all arrived safely back at camp, we gathered around the warmth of our stove, sipped on hot tea and ate a dinner of moose stew and bannock.

Living out on the frozen land is dangerous. You have to develop many skills to survive in the harsh weather. Still, I have fond memories of these intense and difficult times. I think I have become a survivor.



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The persons interested in this position are asked to forward their résumé within the prescribed deadline by March 22, 2002 to:

Marie-Andrée Bourdeau
Head of Human Resources Management - interim
Cree Board of Health & Social Services of
James Bay
Chisasibi, Quebec J0M 1E0
Tel: (819) 855-9001 ext. 5340
Fax: (819) 855-2680



Conseil Cri de la santé et
des services sociaux de la Baie James

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Cree Board of Health and
Social Services of James Bay

FINANCE COORDINATOR

DUTIES:

Reporting to the Director of Finance, you will contribute to the management and control of the CBHSSJB's financial and budgetary activities; internal control, banking, pay plan, client and supplier accounts, statistical reports and management support. In addition, you will replace the Director of Finance during his absence. As part of the Board's reorganization, you will eventually assume the role of assistant Director of finance.

SPECIFIC QUALIFICATIONS AND CONDITIONS:

- You hold a CA, CGA or CMA designation or are in the process of obtaining one, and have a bachelor's degree in business administration with a specialization in Finance.
- You possess three years of experience in computerized financial management in the health and social services network in public sector
- Fluent in spoken and written English and French.
- Knowledge of Cree language is a valuable asset.
- Ability to adapt to an intercultural and remote and remote setting
- Skills in business administration and human resources management
- Solid communication, interpersonal and teamwork abilities
- Ability to travel within and outside of the territory
- Familiarity with First Nations health and social services issues.

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the Dogs Ear

Reviewed by Will Nicholls

Stupid White Men

By Michael Moore

Published by HarperCollins 2001

Michael Moore is now my hero.

He is also a filmmaker and a writer. His films include *Roger & Me*, *The Big One*, *Canadian Bacon* and he's working on a new film called *Bowling for Columbine*. He has worked on the television shows *The Awful Truth* and *TV Nation*.

Moore was also one of the key people working for Ralph Nader's 2000 presidential campaign.

His latest book is a beautiful piece of gonzo style writing. Yes, it is subjective but it is extremely well researched and shows America in a new light. We all knew something was up with the election but we didn't realize how bad it was. Florida Governor Jeb Bush helped his brother out to make sure that few Democrats would be able to vote. The Supreme Court – all daddy's appointees – stopped the clock on ballot recounts when it looked like Gore would win yet allowed illegal, after-the-date votes from military personnel (normally

Republicans). Fox announced Bush's win prematurely. The man who ordered this.... Bush's cousin.

One paragraph really stood out for me. "The coup began long before the shenanigans on election day. In the summer of 1999 Katherine Harris, an honorary Stupid White Man who was both George W. Bush's presidential campaign co-chairwoman and the Florida secretary of state in charge of elections, paid \$4 million to Database Technologies to go through Florida's voter rolls and remove anyone "suspected" of being a former felon. She did so with the blessing of the George W.'s brother Jeb, whose own wife was caught by immigration officials trying to sneak \$19,000 worth of jewelry into the country without declaring and paying tax on it... a felony in its own right."

That's just the first chapter! Moore takes on the airline industry, Black/White relations (he promises to hire only non-Whites from now on), the lack of a real education, the environment, women's rights, what the USA is really number one for – prisons and the death penalty – health care and then wraps it all up at the end.

This is an informative and well-written read and more importantly it is a fun read. It isn't often you get all of this in one package. I was forever going up to co-workers and pointing out little paragraphs



THE DOGS EAR

here and there much to their annoyance. But there is a waiting list, including the guy across the hall, to read it. If you read one new author this year make it Michael Moore. I know I'll be looking for more books from him.

The Spirit That Kills

Ronald Levitsky

Published by Onyx of Penguin Group 1993

I came across this one out of the blue and was intrigued. It is a Native murder mystery. We find that Native American leader Saul Blue Sky has been jailed for murder and a civil liberties lawyer

by the name of Nate Rosen is taking on the case. It is a twisted tale where the murder victim likes to buy old medicine bags and Native bones (whole skeletons if possible). He is found within 50 yards of Blue Sky, who is in a sweat lodge at the time and professes to have heard nothing. Did we mention that the skeleton was on the property that Blue Sky refused to sell?

Then there's the road everyone in town wants to build through his property to build a new western-style casino.

The surprising thing about this book is the characters. They are well developed and fit in with the surprises and twists this novel takes. Not a bad murder mystery at all.



Top 10 Fiction Bestsellers

1 THE SUMMONS, by John Grisham. (Doubleday, \$27.95.) A law professor who has been called home to Mississippi by his father, a dying judge, discovers more than \$3 million in cash in the old man's study.

2 THE COTTAGE, by Danielle Steel. (Delacorte, \$26.95.) An aging, virtually penniless Hollywood star experiences excitement and even happiness after he rents out part of his house.

3 UP COUNTRY, by Nelson DeMille. (Warner, \$26.95.) A Vietnam veteran investigates the mysterious death of an Army lieutenant three decades earlier.

4 THE DIARY OF ELLEN RIMBAUER, edited by Joyce Reardon. (Hyperion, \$22.95.) The fictional journal of the wife

of a Seattle industrialist; a companion volume to the mini-series "Stephen King's Rose Red."

5 SOUTHAMPTON ROW, by Anne Perry. (Ballantine, \$25.) The Victorian police detective Thomas Pitt tries to prevent a ruthless leader of a secret society from acquiring an important seat in Parliament.

6 JOURNEY THROUGH HEARTSONGS, written and illustrated by Mattie J. T. Stepanek. (VSP Books, \$14.95.) A collection of poems by an 11-year-old boy.

7 HUNTING SEASON, by Nevada Barr. (Putnam, \$24.95.) Park ranger Anna Pigeon investigates the murder of a good

ol' boy in Mississippi.

8 CATCH AS CAT CAN, by Rita Mae Brown and Sneaky Pie Brown. (Bantam, \$24.95.) With help from her cats, the postmaster of a small town in the Blue Ridge Mountains looks into two mysterious deaths.

9 THE CORRECTIONS, by Jonathan Franzen. (Farrar, Straus & Giroux, \$26.) A multigenerational saga in which a mother tries to bring her dysfunctional family together for a final Christmas at home.

10 THE MILLIONAIRES, by Brad Meltzer. (Warner, \$25.95.) Things go awry when two brothers who work at an exclusive bank try to pull off a foolproof crime.

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Required qualifications :

Possess a High School education or the equivalent; although a pertinent work experience may compensate. Possess three to five (3-5) years of experience in a mining or industrial environment. Have a pertinent work experience as heavy equipment operator, such as: high capacity loader (letourneau), shovel (375), grader, bulldozer, 150 T truck. Possess a valid driver's licence. Complete with success 84 hours of basic training on heavy equipment. Have a good knowledge of French or English. Having a work experience in a multicultural environment is an asset.

Salary offered from: 18,44\$ / hour.

Main responsibilities :

- Conduct pre operational checks on equipment and clean, lubricate and refuel his equipment;
- Use and operate efficiently and in a safe manner his equipment in respect with the rules and policies in the mine department;
- Exercise with care the displacement and operation of his equipment to avoid unsafe conditions in working areas;
- Insure good condition and cleanliness of the equipment and report all defects to avoid safety and production problems;
- Prepare required reports for materials hauled, supply and equipment used for the mine operations.
- To be available to operate different heavy equipments on the same schedule;
- Perform all other related duties.

Particularities and remuneration

Inmet Mining Corporation offers a competitive salary. These positions are addressed to men and women. Inmet Mining Corporation encourages the hiring of Crees and thanks all applicants for their interest, but advises that only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Those interested are to send their Curriculum vitae, not later than **March 28, 2002** to :

Human Resources Department
Inmet Mining Corporation
Troilus Division
P.O. Box 8700
Chibougamau (Québec) G8P 3A9
Fax : (514) 521-8376 / (418) 748-3033

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A working knowledge of English, French and Cree would be an asset.

the Nation

Please e-mail c.v. to
linda@beesum-communications.com

Or fax 514-278-9914

Submit by April 21, 2002

CLASSIFIEDS

100 - BIRTHS

I would like to say "CONGRATULATIONS" to my aunt Audrey Gilpin and her boyfriend Norman Voyageur on the birth of their new baby boy Franklin Voyageur on January 27th 2002. Take good care of Franklin Audrey and Norman. xxx xxxxxx Love Always Florianne.

I would like to say "CONGRATULATIONS" to Emmitt Gilpin and his girlfriend Bella Moses on the birth of their new baby boy Cohe Gilpin on January 29th 2002. Take good care of Cohe, Emmitt and Bella. xxxxxxxx Love Always FLorianne.

101 - BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to a shy girl Christine Kawapit on March 19th. She will be celebrating her 19th birthday. Enjoy your day and don't party too much at the Social Club or at the Resto Pub. Keep in mind it's still too cold to party too much.

Happy Belated Birthday to a special person in my life, who means the world to me. My father Allan Diamond. Happy 22nd Birthday (LOL) Just kidding... I won't say how old you are. So, don't worry. Hope your day will be extra special as you are. Thank you for everything you've done for me all these years. With love always, your teenage daughter who gets in troubles sometimes, but who will always love and admire you. PS: I.W.A.L.Y. Darlene.

I would like to send my Happy Birthday messages to the following relatives of mine: my brother Mervin-Tommy Cheezo on Feb. 28, my father Gordon Mayappo on March 11, my niece Mervina Cheezo on March 21st, and to my one and only sister Phyllis Mayappo-Gilpin on March 23rd. Bonne Fete tout le monde and many, many more birthdays to come. With beaucoup de love, Francine Moses (Eastmain).

We would like to say Happy

Birthday to our mom Phyllis Mayappo-Gilpin on March 23, we love you with all our little hearts, from your daughter Krista Mayappo and your son, Nicholas Gilpin. XOXOXO (Eastmain).

Wishing a Happy Birthday to someone very special and dear to me. My husband Larry, on March 22nd. First I thank God for bringing us through the difficult times and for keeping us together all these years. We both know it was not easy at times but we still stood by each other. Most of all, thank you for being so patient and forgiving. I love you very much, Helen.

We would like to wish a Happy Birthday to our 2 daughters; Leonda on March 26 and Judy on March 31. From mom and Dad. (the fax arrived bent, sorry if any mistake on date - Nation)

Happy Birthday dad/grandpa Christopher on February 27/02. Sorry we cannot be there to see you blow out your many, many candles... But, just to let you know that we are thinking about you on your special day and we hope that you will enjoy it! Love Paula & Paulette with lots of Hugs and Kisses.

We would like to wish our two wonderful googoons, Kathleen Neeposh on March 13th and Pamela House on March 23rd, a "HAPODEE" and many more to come. Love always, Yasmine and Crystal.

This birthday wish is going out to Gerda Georgekish, her birthday is on March 22nd 2002. HAPPY BIRTHDAY! From all the employees at the daycare.

On this special day, March 6th, 2002, I would like to wish our special Mother, Elizabeth G Matoush, a happy birthday. I hope you enjoy your very special day. God bless you. From your Daughter Smatoush. Love you...miss you...xoxoxoxoxoxoxoxo

We would like to wish a happy birthday to Glenn Salt on March

26th, 2002 in North Bay and to Tommy Matches on March 27th, 2002 in Nemaska Happy Birthday to you both and many many more to come. From, Rebecca, Barry, Juanita, & Emily-Ann Bearskin in Chisasibi



I would like to wish a happy birthday to my one and only Sister Jessica Cooncome Mianscum on February 18 2002.....once again HAPPY BIRTHDAY and I LOVE YOU SO SO SO MUCH.....love always BALA Cooncome

On these special days, March 5th, 2002, we would like to wish a Happy Birthday to 'Larissa Matoush Ottereyes' from Waswanipi, And on March 6th, 2002, we would like to wish a Happy Birthday to my Mother 'Elizabeth Gunner Matoush' From Mistissini, And on March 7th, 2002 we would like to wish a Happy Birthday to my Brother 'Donald Matoush' From Mistissini, Hope you guy's have fun on your Birthdays and many

more to come...oh Brother don't party to much on your Birthday....From: Smatoush & E s h a s h a w e s k u m (Wemindji)....xoxoxoxo. Miss you all.

BELATED BIRTHDAY GREETINGS to Alyssa Coonishish on Feb 3, who turned 11, Jennaya Allissippi on Feb 15, who turned 9, Rionel Blacksmith on Feb 18, who turned 7, Jeremiah (Jamal) Blacksmith on Feb 21, who turned 16 and Isaac Longchap on Feb 24, who also turned 16. From buddy & homer and their masters & Madison.

To "My Little Angel" DESIREE JORDAIN CLAIRE MOSES (Moose Factory) who celebrated her 2nd birthday on Feb 5/02, A poem for you: WHEN GOD CREATED DAUGHTERS he took very special care,/to find the precious treasures/that would make them sweet and fair.../He gave them smiles of angels,/then explored the midnight skies/and took a bit

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CLASSIFIEDS

of stardust/to make bright and beautiful eyes.../He fashioned the with sugar/ and a bit of spice./He gave them sunny laughter/and everything that is nice.../. So you see "Sweetheart" you are so precious to me.../God created daughters for the world to see. Happy Birthday Babe! Hope you enjoyed your Special Day. All my love, Mom.

We would like to send belated birthday wishes to the following people: Carlene Small-Feb 5th, Jennifer Small-Feb 7th, Lucas Moses -Feb 9th and our friend Pam Jeffries -Feb 10th. Hope you all enjoyed your special day! From Desiree Jordain Claire (and my mommy too!)

Happy Birthday to these people: Claudine Matoush (Feb. 1), Archie Moar (Feb. 6), Angela Gates (Feb. 12), Beverly Cox (Feb. 13), Liette Neacappo (Mar. 8), Nathan Pash-Wapachee (Mar. 9), Alice Visitor (Mar.10), Archie Moar Jr. (Mar. 23), Leigh-Ann Sealhunter (Mar. 24), Shayn Pash(Mar. 25), and finally Janie Moar (Mar. 31). From your friend, cousin, niece, daughter April.

Wishing a Happy 1st Birthday to my chubby little big nephew, Spencer Bobbish on March 15. The First Time i saw you, I was afraid to hold you because you were so tiny. Today you are growing up so fast, you're almost the same height as your cousin Payton and he is four months older than you. Can't wait to see you eat your cake. Again Happy 1st Birthday. Love always. Aunt April.

We wannna wish happy birthday to a wonderful dad Edward Pepabano, he will celebrate his birthday on March 8, **HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND MANY MORE TO COME!!!!!!! LOVE ALWAYS...**Sally, Jerry & Gerald

We wannna wish happy birthday to a wonderful dad Edward Pepabano, he will celebrate his birthday on march 8,,**HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND MANY**

MORE TO COME!!!!!!! LOVE ALWAYS. Sally, Jerry & Gerald

105 - OBITUARIES

Late Randy Wapachee (Buddy), pass away in spring 2001. Missing you a friend, a time of need. You got the anner and this obituary I'm writing is a heart of me it hurts losing someone you know as a friend. Visiting you at the grave, I just want to go home too. I know I will see you up there in heaven, and I know you're watching over me. But there's one thing I can say in my heart as I live here; we shall rejoice together in heaven. I am missing you, especially our fishing game, getting pikes, our huge ones. We knew part of our culture. In closing; I will miss you. Will always keep our last words we used to say: Good Bye! Written by Jackson Jolly.

We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to Ella Salt and family. God bless you and comfort you in your time of sorrow. May His peace be with you and let Him be your refuge. Love, friends always; Helen and Larry.

300 - PERSONALS

A special thanks to the staff at the Montreal Awasis Day Care.

Lori, Leonie, Donna, Kim, Anna, Catherine, most of all the children. I love each and every one of you. Thank you for letting me be part of the staff team. Linda too, thank you very much. Love always, Olivia Couchers XOXOXO.

To my parents Lily and Christopher Napash, I want to thank you for all that you have done for me. You have given me the greatest parents anybody could ever ask for...Love, trust, patience, understanding, encouraging & supporting. Even though, I was and still am a pain in the a** you always stand by me to lead me to right direction (with a few stops and turns on the way). But, you did a good job with me, except for my height dad...just kidding. You know what I mean! I love you both very much and thank you for always being there for me. Love Paula

I just wanna say "Hi and I miss you!" to Alex Mark and Christina Ottereyes (Chewy) whom I miss so much. Chewy, you didn't know how to quit when you started bugging someone but yeah, I miss that sometimes. (lol) Read your "Book", the one you wanted for Christmas. (which you got:)

Alex, I hope your eyes are not permanently glued to the TV screen by now. Not by watching TV shows but by playing that game. (Play Station2) I miss that game and you know I was the best player. (lol) Anyway, I miss you guys and take care of yourselves. Be smart and be good :) **Love From: Shannon**

We would like to say Hi! ... to our bro's in Waskaganish; Richard Mark and Germain Cap. When are you guys planning to come down again? (hopefully soon). We miss you guys. Mom says Hi and she loves you both so much. She's looking forward to seeing you both, and the kids. Hi to Stella and Angela, and Hi to Nigel, Natasha, Sonny boy and baby Treasure and Gianna. Love you. From Tanya, Pam, Grace and Mom, Niko. PS: **Can't forget Doggy. XOXOXO**

I would like to say a few words to Isaac Longchap the handsomest, Sweetest, Smartest guy I've ever known, and the funniest guy to be with. And I just wanted to say Happy Birthday on February 24,2002 (I think).He's gonna be Sweet 16!!! P.S. And Happy Valentines Day!! Take care! From: your Secret Admirer from Mistissini!!

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